

The background is a dark purple and blue gradient with a bokeh effect of small, glowing orange and yellow circles. At the top center is a black, multi-pointed star. Below it, the word "Advent" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Underneath "Advent" is the phrase "PREPARING THE WAY" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. In the lower half of the image, there is a black silhouette of a manger structure. To the left and right of the manger are palm trees. In the foreground, below the manger, is a small black silhouette of a donkey.

Advent

PREPARING THE WAY

Dec. 20, 2020

Holy Family Parish Center—370 Middleboro Avenue—P.O. Box 619 East Taunton, MA 02718

Encounter Christ in the Sacraments

Holy Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m.
Daily Mass: Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.
(The rosary is prayed prior to daily Mass at 7:35 a.m.)

Sacrament of Confession:

Saturdays from 3-3:50 PM at Holy Family.

Eucharistic Adoration

(in the Parish Center Chapel)
Mondays-Fridays 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

The Rosary is prayed every Monday in the chapel from 6-7 pm for Vocations. All are welcome to come and pray.

Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment. Parents must contact the Priest or Deacon for an appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Those parishioners wishing to be married at our parish must contact the Priest or Deacon *at least 8 months* before the date of the wedding.

Visitation and Anointing of the Sick

We are pleased to anoint and/or bring Communion to any parishioner who cannot participate at Mass for reasons of illness or age. Please contact us.

Bulletin Submissions —

Please email bulletinholyfamily@gmail.com with any announcements at least one week in advance of the publication date.

Please Pray for the Following:

Gail Nigloschy & Family	Marc DeSousa
Evelyn Driscoll	Lindsey and Theo
Deborah Lewis	Janice Fitzpatrick
Adeline Marques	Liam Quinn
Mary daSilvia	Lorraine Moisan
Steve Kennealy	Sylvia Medeiros
Carmen Sousa	Lorraine Rapoza
Meg Goslin	Julia Lopes
Sr. Anita Marie	Marianne Powers
Steven Bois	Denis Candlen
Heather Gacheco	Jean Poole
Luzia & Adelino Grazito	Aaron Lewis
Dennis Medeiros	Luke Sigler
Edward Kerrigan	Agostinho Rodrigues
Dan Dolan	Robin Benoit
Donna Guay	Isabel Simao
Kevin Gallagher & Family	Tony & Sharon Demerol

Welcome

To any new parishioners or those who might be visiting our parish family this week! Please introduce yourself to the Fr. Wilson or Deacon Kevin. We are so happy you have joined us!

About Us

Parish Center

438 Middleboro Ave., E. Taunton, MA 02718

Office Hours

Monday–Friday from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Phone Numbers

Rectory: 508-824-5665
Parish Center: 508-824-5707
Faith Formation: 508-824-3578
Fax -508-822-2915

Website: <http://www.hfparish.net>

Parish Staff

Fr. Richard Wilson, Pastor
fatherwilson@anchornews.org

Rev. David S. Marcham, Visiting Priest
dmarcham@hcfm.org

Rev. Mr. Kevin Gingras, Deacon
kpgingras@gmail.com.

Rev. Mr. John J. Fitzpatrick, Deacon (retired)
zekefitz29@gmail.com

JR Pimentel, Director of Music Ministry
mmpjr315@comcast.net

Tracey Desmarais, Secretary
secretary@holyfamilytaunton.org

Mary C. Anderson, Organist
Dave LeClair, Maintenance

Sarah Parker, Sacristan & Rectory Assistant
sacristan@holyfamilytaunton.org

Co-DRE's: Stephen Woolson & Shannon Doel
DRE@holyfamilytaunton.org

That Man Is YOU!
tmiy@holyfamilytaunton.org

Recurring Events

St. Vincent DePaul Society

2nd Wednesday at 7:00pm

Knights of Columbus

1st Wednesday at 7:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry

2nd Wednesday at 1:00pm

Message from Father Rich: You are all in my prayers as we approach the celebration of Christmas. The challenges we are all facing at this time are great, but Christmas is all about God the Son coming to be with us (Emmanuel), becoming one with us, so that we can learn from Him how to take up our crosses and follow after Him, so that He could save us by His Cross. As we know, the first Christmas was not easy at all – the journey Mary and Joseph had to make from Nazareth to Bethlehem, while she was in the late stage of her pregnancy; the lack of welcome they experienced; the having to live and give birth in a stable; the having to flee to Egypt; the slaughter of the holy innocents back in Bethlehem and vicinity. As we pray about these various aspects of the mystery of Christmas, we can unite either our own trials and tribulations or those of people who have it worse than us to what the Holy Family endured. Jesus, Mary and Joseph are always with us, always offering what we need most. We just need to open our spiritual eyes and see what they are offering. It is always tied in with love – love for God and love for our neighbor. God loved us first and He wants to celebrate with us in the depths of our hearts – and then wants us to share that love with everyone. If you cannot come to Mass on Christmas Eve or Day or any Sunday (due to health concerns, work schedules, etc. – the bishop’s dispensation remains in force), I remind you to take time to pray (I would suggest at least a half hour) along with a Mass you can watch via TV or the internet or reading the readings and praying on your own, uniting yourself to God, who came to unite His Son to you. The Masses during the week normally have fewer people at them (you can check online or by calling the office to see if this is the case for a given Mass), if you would feel better coming to a more sparsely attended Mass. I also found in Christmases past that walking around the trees at the Taunton Green and Church Green that those can be good places to pray the Rosary, either alone or with a few other folk, praying for the intentions listed at each tree. I also like to look at the angel tree ornaments and pray for the people listed on those trees (I especially remember the “angel” names and the Christmas flowers intentions at my Masses throughout this season). Thank you for your examples of faith! I appreciate your prayers and your witness. With my prayers, Fr. Rich

Winners of \$25 each for the first Century Club drawing in December are:

Fr. Jeff Cabral, Barbara Adams, Arlene DeMoura, Joanne McGuire, Irene Coyne, Dave LeClair, and Maureen Juskiewicz. The one time winner of \$100 for being paid in full was Russ Spearin. Congratulations to all the winners! There’s still a chance at 9 more monthly drawings of \$25 each + the big prizes at the end of the year! If you haven’t already signed up and would like to, it’s never too late!



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19, 2020

8:00 AM (C) Msgr. Henry T. Munroe
 4:00 PM (C) Fernand Medeiros-1st Anniversary
 7:00 PM (P) Special Intention

Sunday, December 20, 2020

7:30 AM (C) Richard LaBelle-11th Anniversary
 9:00 AM (P) Rosemarie Olivadesa-5th Anniversary
 10:30 AM (C) Kathleen Rudinsky, Bertha & Floren Forit
 3:00 PM (C) For the People of the Parish

Monday, December 21, 2020

8:00 AM (C) Kyla Whalley
 8:00 PM (P) John McDonald

Tuesday, December 22, 2020

8:00 AM (C) Special Intention
 3:00 PM (P) Ray LaFerriere

Wednesday, December 23, 2020

8:00 AM (C) Francis Casey
 7:30 PM (P) Rosemarie Olivadesa-5th Anniversary

Thursday, December 24, 2020

8:00 AM (C) Harriet Plentus, John J. Plentus, & Dave Plentus
 4:00 PM (C) Brett Ploude-5th Anniversary
 4:00 PM (P) Carl & Dora Dutra, Joyce H. Gaddy, Beatrice A. (Cardin) Lagace, & Janice C. Frates
 6:00 PM (St. Mary’s) Deceased members of Holy Family Parish

Friday, December 25, 2020

Midnight (C) Maria Medeiros
 8:00 AM (St. Mary’s) For the People of the Parish
 10:00 AM (C) Theodore (Jeff) Aleixo, Sr.

Saturday, December 26, 2020

Noon (C) Stephen Thrasher
 4:00 PM (C) Margaret Carvalho-22nd Anniversary
 Antone Silvia, Jr.-3rd Anniversary
 7:00 PM (P) Ercilia DeJesus

Sunday, December 27, 2020

7:30 AM (C) For the People of the Parish
 9:00 AM (P) Joyce Rosemary Woolson-1st Anniversary
 10:30 AM (C) Jacinto & Maria Paiva
 3:00 PM (C) John Smith

HELP NEEDED AT BIRTH RIGHT. BirthRight of Greater Taunton is in need of volunteers for our office on Tuesday and/or Thursday from 10 am-2 pm. You will be asked to help with greeting clients and determining their needs. Please call Mary Jane at 508-822-2911 for more information and interview. BirthRight is now located at 468 Bay St, Taunton, MA 02780

CLOTHING NEEDED AT BIRTH RIGHT. BirthRight of Greater Taunton is in need of new or gently used children's clothing from size newborn to 4T for both boys and girls. They can be brought to the office on Tuesday or Thursday between 10 am and 2 pm. Monetary donations in memory of a deceased loved one may also be made. Birth Right will send a card to the family to notify them of your donation and to give thanks. Any questions, please call 508-822-2911.

Online Bereavement Support

Due to COVID-19, live sessions are not allowed. Currently online sessions are offered on Tuesdays at 4:30pm and 7pm. Register in advance for the 4pm at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451200000>

The 7pm meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451200000>

Adoration has moved INSIDE at the Parish Center. Due to the limited space in the chapel (only allowing 1-2 people at a time inside under social distancing guidelines), we have Adoration set up in classrooms 1 & 2 (which have been transformed into a chapel) Adorers will enter by the door at the front left of the building & you will be able to access the door for the temporary chapel from there. For now, the times will still be M-F from 11am-8pm and then First Saturday Adoration will be 10am-3pm. Masks are required and there will be limits on the number of Adorers that can be in there at one time. We ask that you help us by sanitizing your chair/kneeler before you leave with the wipes/disinfectant provided. Thank you! If there are more than 4 people (or if you arrive early), you can also see the Blessed Sacrament from the windows outside (where the bench is).

The parish office will be closed on December 24th and 25th, as well as December 31st and January 1st for the holidays.

Confessions are available! Fr. Rich is out in the parking lot during designated times to hear confessions. To have anonymity, simply drive up behind him and you can stay in your car if you would like (or you can walk up behind him. He won't turn around). If you prefer, you can bring a chair and have a face-to-face confession, or you can also take a walk around the parking lot with him. The hours this week will be:

- Sunday, Dec. 20 from 9:30 to 10:15 in the temporary Adoration chapel & 2:15 to 2:45 in the church parking lot or rectory porch
- Tuesday, Dec. 22 after the 3 pm Mass at the parish center
- Wednesday, Dec. 23 after 8 pm Reposition in the temporary Adoration chapel
- Saturday, Dec. 26 from 2:45 to 3:30 in the temporary Adoration chapel

Just a reminder that in order to keep Adoration going through the winter, we need your help. We ask that you wear a mask in the building at all times and when you're leaving the chapel, please be sure to wipe down your seat/kneeler with the antibacterial wipes provided. Also, we are always looking for substitutes to help out with back-up coverage, so feel free to let us know if you'd like to be added to the substitute list. Thank you so much for your continued support and helping us keep our parish family healthy!

We have an hour available on Tuesdays from 2-3pm permanently (or temporarily) for Adoration as well as from 5-6 pm on Thursdays for a brief time (1-2 months). If you are interested in either hour, please let us know. Thank you!
Adoration for Christmas Eve/Christmas Day: Adoration will end early at 2:30 PM on Christmas Eve and will be closed on Christmas Day.

FORMED... It's that time of year again when we get a bill from FORMED to renew our annual subscription. We offer it free to all of our parishioners, accessible through our website. It has so many wonderful resources to learn and strengthen your faith. We are appealing again to anyone who may want to make a donation to help offset the \$1,999 renewal. In most of the years we've had it, we've been fortunate to have the majority of it paid for with donations. If you'd like to help, just write "FORMED" on a blank envelope and place it in one of the collection bins at the church or parish center, or mail it into the church. If you've never used FORMED, right now, during Advent, would be the perfect

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Mass information:

This year is going to be quite different due to the ongoing pandemic. A letter was mailed out to homes that you should have received this week that includes the times and location of our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. We are **requiring reservations** for all the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day masses as we expect to meet our allowed social-distancing capacity at each one rather quickly.

The reservations for those Masses will be posted on **Monday, December 21st beginning at 8:30 AM**. In order to give everyone a fair chance to get the Mass they'd like, we cannot take any reservations prior to the 21st. The Bishop continues his dispensation releasing Catholics from their obligation to attend Mass on weekends and Holy Days due to the pandemic. He also emphasized that Christmas continues from the vigil on the 24th through January 10th, so if you can't go to one of the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Masses, you are most welcome to go to one of the daily morning/evening Masses we continue to have during that time.

Fr. Rich will be having a total of 6 Masses, rather than the usual 4 Christmas Masses because of the capacity restrictions. 2 of them will be held at St. Mary's in downtown Taunton because it is a far larger church than Holy Family and can accommodate more people. Here is the schedule of Masses:

Christmas Eve vigil 4:00 PM both at the Parish Center and Church simultaneously. We will have *approximately* 40 spots in the upstairs of the church with about 30 overflow seats in the basement where the Mass will be live-streamed and communion given out at the end. At the parish center, we have seating for *approximately* 55 people.

Christmas Eve 6:00 PM vigil (extra) at St. Mary's, Taunton by Fr. Rich.

Midnight Mass at Holy Family Church.

8:00 AM Christmas Day (extra) Mass at St. Mary's Taunton by Fr. Canuel.

10:00 AM Christmas Day at Holy Family Church

We know that it is difficult sacrifice to not be able to keep up with our regular traditions and not be able to attend the Mass we typically go to at Christmas, but we are incredibly thankful for our Parish family's understanding during these unprecedented times as we follow both the Governor's and Bishop's directives on keeping everyone safe.

SCAM EMAILS: Please be aware of fraudulent emails from Fr. Rich (or another priest) asking for gift cards or money. Priests and other members of the clergy will never solicit by email or text asking that you respond with the code numbers of gift cards. Established websites, such as Bishop DaCunha's FACE (Foundation to Advance Catholic Education), Catholic Charities Appeal, and our own Holy Family online giving platform are examples of safe websites to donate to. If you google email/text scams for gift cards in churches, you'll see it's a nationwide, if not worldwide, problem. One of the first things to do if you get such an email is to look closely at the sender's email address. It may say "Fr. Richard Wilson" as the name, but if you don't recognize the actual email address, it most likely is a scam. Please forward the email to us so we can alert the Diocese when it occurs.



Please visit us on Sunday December 20th for a "Drive by Visit With Santa" hosted by the Knights of Columbus at the Parish Center from 10:00 to 11:30 AM. This event replaces "Breakfast with Santa" which must be cancelled this year due to Covid restrictions. Please enter the Parish Center parking lot and follow the cones to be greeted by Santa Claus without leaving your car. Please wear a mask when approaching Santa, each child will receive the customary bag of goodies that can be placed in your trunk or hatchback by one of Santa's helpers. It's always a great time to greet Santa Claus at Holy Family for both children and parents. This event is **FREE** and all are welcome.

HELP NEEDED! One of the members of our parish community who is disabled is seeking a female helper on Sunday evenings from 3:30-5:30 to assist her with supper. Familiarity with a hooyer lift is helpful, but not required. The pay is \$15.75/hour through MA health. Please call 508-824-0072 for more information.



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